Message Text

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EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04

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R 030930Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7930

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR YO GW PORG SUBJ: GENSCHER/MINIC TALKS

1. SUMMARY. NEWLY-ARRIVED FRG COUNSELOR, WHO WAS CHARGE'
DURING GENSCHER'S YUGOSLAV VISIT, MADE INTRODUCTORY COURTESY
CALL ON EMBCOUNS SEP 1 AND PROVIDED RUNDOWN OF
AUG 27 TRIP BY FONMIN GENSCHER TO VISIT YUGOSLAV
COUNTERPART MINIC. ACCORDING TO CHARGE', TALKS CENTERED
ON MINIC'S RESUME OF COLOMBO SUMMIT; GENSCHER'S QUESTIONS ON
TITO'S MEDITERRANEAN PROPOSAL; TO-AND-FRO
ON CIEC PROSPECTS IN POST-COLOMBO PERIOD; AND

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EXPLORATION OF SOME IDEAS FOR UNGA AGENDA: BILATERAL

ISSUES ONLY TOUCHED UPON IN PASSING WITH NO MEANINGFUL SUBSTANTIVE EXCHANGE. END SUMMARY.

2. FRG CHARGE' PROVIDED EMBASSY COUNSELOR WITH RUNDOWN OF GENSCHER'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA. PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO OBTAIN "MEDIA EXPOSURE" FOR GENSCHER IN CONTEXT OF UPCOMING FRG ELECTIONS. CHARGE' SAID THAT VISIT, ALTHOUGH HASTILY ARRANGED ONLY FOUR DAYS IN ADVANCE, HAD IN PRINCIPLE BEEN IN THE WORKS SINCE JUNE. HE CHARACTERIZED IT AS A WORKING VISIT AND SAID THAT MINIC'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO GERMANY LAST NOVEMBER WOULD STILL BE RECIPROCATED AT SOME FUTURE DATE BY FRG FONMIN.

3. MOST OF FIVE-HOUR MEETING AT MINIC'S COASTAL VACATION SPOT TAKEN UP WITH HIS REVIEW OF COLOMBO AND GENSCHER QUESTIONING ABOUT YUGOSLAV ROLE AT NONALIGNED CONFERENCE AND PLANS FOR FUTURE OF THE MOVEMENT. CHARGE' SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MINIC WAS CANDID IN HIS PRESENTATION, HIS PRESENTATION DID NOT YIELD ANY NUANCES DIFFERENT FROM THE LINE TAKEN BY TOP YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS UPON RETURN FROM SRI LANKA AND NOW REPEATED IN YUGOSLAV PRESS. DURING GENSCHER CROSS-QUESTIONING, HOWEVER, FOLLOWING POINTS EMERGED: (A) ON NONALIGNED CALL FOR EMBARGO AGAINST FRANCE, GENSCHER WARNED YUGOSLAVS OF DANGERS OF TRYING TO ISOLATE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND PRESSURE THEM BECAUSE OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS. HE SAID FRG WOULD VIEW VERY SERIOUSLY ANY ATTEMPT TO IMPLEMENT THE OIL EMBARGO AGAINST FRANCE BECAUSE OF LATTER'S POLICIES TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA. MINIC REPLIED THAT IN TRYING TO MAKE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL DEALS WITH SOUTH AFRICA FRENCH HAD "SLAUGHTERED ON OX TO GAIN A POUND OF FLESH." HE SAID BLACK AFRICAN NATIONS THEMSELVES WERE THE ECONOMIC MARKET OF THE FUTURE, FRANCE WAS BOTH STRATEGICALLY AND TACTICALLY IN ERROR BY DEALING WITH SOUTH AFRICA, AND YUGOSLAVS COULD CERTAINLY NOT DEFEND FRENCH ACTIONS AS ALL OF FRANCOPHONE AFRICA OPPOSED FRENCH DEALINGS WITH RSA. (NOTE: THIS SOUNDS LIKE STANDARD YUGOSLAV LINE OF "HOW CAN WE BE AHEAD OF THOSE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA WHO ... ", E.G., ON PUERTO RICO, KOREA, CONFIDENTIAL

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ANGOLA.) (B) MEDITERRANEAN AREA OF PEACE AND COOPERATION: GENSCHER ASKED MINIC WHAT TITO HAD IN MIND WITH RESPECT TO MEDITERRANEAN IN HIS SPEECH AT COLOMBO. MINIC REPLIED THAT YUGOSLAVS HAD A TWO-STEP PROCESS IN MIND. FIRST, THERE WOULD BE A CONFERENCE OF NONALIGNED MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES; SECOND, A MEETING THAT COULD INCLUDE ISRAEL AS WELL AS US AND SOVIET UNION (THE LATTER TWO "BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF THEIR FLEETS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.").

MINIC DID NOT GIVE A DIRECT ANSWER TO GENSCHER'S QUESTION AS TO WHETHER BULGARIA WOULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED A MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRY THAT SHOULD BE PRESENT AT THE SECOND STAGE OF THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE.

(C) ECONOMIC ISSUES POST-COLOMBO: MINIC TOLD GENSCHER THAT THE GROUP OF 19 AT THE CIEC WOULD "BE SPEAKING IN THE NAME OF THE NON-ALIGNED AS A WHOLE" AT FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE PARIS CONFERENCE. THIS REFERENCE TO NON-ALIGNED RATHER THAN G-77 SURPRISED GENSCHER (AS IT DOES US AS WELL). HE SAID THAT IN ORDER TO AVOID A WORSENING OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL RELATIONS IT WAS IMPERATIVE REPEAT IMPERATIVE THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES DO TWO THINGS AT PARIS, TO WIT: AGREE TO (1) "ALLEVIATE" DEBT BURDEN OF LDC'S, AND (2) TAKE ACTION TO STABILIZE EXPORT EARNINGS OF THIRD WORLD RAW MATERIALS PRODUCERS. (SOUNDS LIKE "PRESSURE" TO US. IN SAYING THIS, MINIC STRESSED HE UNDERSTOOD GERMANS WERE THE TOUGHEST IN OPPOSING LEGITIMATE THIRD WORLD DEMANDS AT CIEC MEETINGS. ACCORDING TO CHARGE', GENSCHER COUNTERED MINIC FIRMLY ON THESE POINTS SAYING THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO AGREE TO SWEEPING FORMULATIONS PRESENTED BY THE G-19 AND THAT UNLESS THIRD WORLD OFFERED CONCRETE AND WORKABLE SUGGESTIONS, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CONTINUE THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION.

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R 030930Z SEP 76 FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7931 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY PRETORIA AMEMBASSY SOFIA AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV AMCONSUL ZAGREB USMISSION NATO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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- 4. OVERALL CHARGE' SAID MINIC WAS AT HIS MOST AGRESSIVE WHEN DISCUSSING FUTURE OF PARIS CONFERENCE, MORE MODULATED ON TOPIC OF MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE, AND WAS LEAST INTENSE ON ISSUE OF FRENCH POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA AND REACTION OF NON-ALIGNED THERETO.
- 5. AFTER DISCUSSION OF COLOMBO AND CIEC ISSUES, GENSCHER ACQUAINTED MINIC WITH FRG PLAN TO PROPOSE AT UNGA A RESOLUTION ON KIDNAPPING (SOME FORM OF MANDATORY EXTRADITION ANDCRIMINAL PROSECUTION), POINTING OUT THAT FRG WOULD LIKELY NOT LINK THIS ISSUE WITH BROADER TERRORSIM ISSUE IN GENERAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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MINIC REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT YUGOSLAVIA WOULD LOOK WITH FAVOR ON AN ANTI-KIDNAPPING RESOLUTION AND THAT GOY AGREED IT WOULD BE BEST TO KEEP DISCUSSION OF SAME OUTSIDE OF BROADER CONTEXT OF ANTI-TERRORISM INITIATIVES.

6. BOTH SIDES HAD VERY LITTLE TIME, ACCORDING TO CHARGE', TO COVER BILATERAL ISSUES; BUT DID TOUCH BRIEFLY ON FOLLOWING: (A) EMIGRE' TERRORISM--MINIC STATED HE EXPECTED FRG TO BE VIGILANT AGAINST ACTIONS OF YUGOSLAV EMIGRE TERRORISTS. TO WHICH ACCORD-ING TO CHARGE', "GENSCHER NODDED;" (B) MINIC ASKED FOR MORE ACTION BY FRG TO BRING BILATERAL TRADE ACCOUNTS INTO BETTER BALANCE; GENSCHER COUNTERED THAT THIS A WORTHY OBJECTIVE BUT IN SAME CONTEXT HOPED THAT GERMAN COMPANIES WOULD BE PERMITTED TO OPEN REPRESENTATIVE FIRMS IN YUGOSLAVIA: (C) YUGOSLAVS ASKED FOR BETTER PRESS TREATMENT IN WEST GERMAN MEDIA; GENSCHER COUNTERED BY SAYING THAT GERMANS EXPECTED THEIR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO HAVE BETTER ACCESS TO YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS, POINTEDLY MAKING REFERENCE TO FACT THAT MINIC HAD RECEIVED NO GERMAN CORRESPONDENT FOR EVEN SO MUCH AS A BACKGROUND INTERVIEW. CHARGE' SPECIFICALLY

SAID MILITARY-TO-MILITARY RELATIONS WERE NOT DISCUSSED AND THERE WAS NO STRESS ON EMIGRE TERRORISM QUESTION.

7. AFTER CHARGE'S RUN-THROUGH, EMBCOUNS ASKED FOR FRG ASSESSMENT OF YUGOSLAV ROLE AT NON-ALIGNED COLOMBO CONFERENCE. CHARGE' REPLIED THAT THERE WAS SOMEWHAT OF A SPLIT BETWEEN FRG EMBASSY IN BELGRADE AND ITS BONN MINISTRY ON THIS POINT. EMBASSY HAD VIEW THAT YUGOSLAVSN ALTHOUGH NOT EXTREMISTS, WERE CERTAINLY NOT MODERATE, WHILE BONN "STILL USING MODERATE CHARACTERIZATION." HE SAID HE HIMSELF HAD NO TIME TO BRIEF GENSCHER, BUT THAT POLICY DEBATE NOW ONGOING WITHIN FRG. HE HOPED THAT THERE WILL BE RESOLUTION OF THE SOMEWHAT DIFFERING POINTS OF VIEW.

8. COMMENT: WE DONOT KNOW INTRICACIES OF FRG ELETIONEERING, BUT WE ARE PUZZLED ABOUT HOW VALUABLE CONFIDENTIAL

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GENSCHER'S "MEDIA EXPOSURE" GAINED IN YUGOSLAVIA WOULD BE, EMBASSY HAS MADE ITS VIEW KNOWN ON SEMANTIC, AND CONCEPTUAL, APPROPRIATENESS OF TAGGING YUGOSLAVS AS "MODERATES" IN NON-ALIGNED AS OTHERS WONT TO DO. FRG EMBASSY HERE SEEMS TO HAVE SAME DISPUTE, AND ITALIAN AMBASSADOR HERE RECENTLY MENTIONED SIMILAR POINT TO AMBASSADOR. TITO'S REFERENCE AT NAC TO MEDITERRANEAN "PEACE AND COOPERATION AREA" AND MINIC'S RESPONSE TO GENSCHER MOST PROBABLY PART OF GENERAL YUGOSLAV POLICY TO APPEAR TO INCLUDE ARAB WORLD IN EUROPEAN/MEDITERRANEAN DELIBERATIONS. YUGOSLAVS ALSO LIKELY DEVISING SERIES OF PROPOSALS FOR BELGRADE (CSCE) '77 AND MAY BE CONSIDERING RESURRECTING OLD MALTAN MEDITERRANEAN PLOY, OF WHICH "MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE" COULD BE HARBINGER. MINIC RSPONSES HOWEVER FIRST EVIDENCE TO US OF ANY SUCH POSSIBILITY. FINALLY, FROM CHARGE'S ACCOUNT OF TALKS, GENSCHER (LIKE ANOTHER FONMIN OF NOTE) HAS CONSIDERABLE WIT AND LIKES TO USE IT. HOWEVER, WITH STOLID MINIC ON MONTENEGRIN COAST GENSCHER HUMOR WAS UNTRADEABLE COMMODITY. ONLY MINIC ANIMATION REPORTED BY CHARGE' WAS OCCASIONAL RAPID NODDING OF HEAD, THAT GERMANS ASSOCIATED WITH MINIC'S PARKINSON'S DISEASE. SILBERMAN

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